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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named  
Inventor :

Todd M. Bjork et al.

Appln. No. : 10/681,480

Filed : October 8, 2003

For : SURGICAL CLAMP

Docket No.: M81.12-0065

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS  
BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO  
THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O.  
BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, THIS

15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May,  
2006.

[Signature]  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

The patents or publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form-1449 are submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. Copies of the patents or publications cited are enclosed, except as waived by the Official Gazette notice of August 5, 2003 regarding copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications.

Submitted herewith is a copy (with English translation as appropriate) of an Official Search Report of the PCT Patent Office in counterpart foreign application No. PCT/US04/33000 filed October 7, 2004.

TIME OF FILING

The information disclosure statement is being filed:

1. ☐ with the application or within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.
2. ☒ after the time period specified in paragraph 1 above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311.  
Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), submitted herewith is:

(check either A or B below)

A. X a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

B.    the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

**STATEMENT**

(only used if No. 2(A) or No. 3 above is checked)

The person(s) signing below certify

(check appropriate paragraph)

X that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

OR

   that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

**METHOD OF PAYMENT**


X No fee is required.

   Attached is a check in the amount of \$  .

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No.: M81.12-0065	Appl. No.: 10/681,480
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	First Named Inventor:	
	Todd M. Bjork et al.	
	Filing Date	Group Art:
	October 8, 2003	

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
AA	5,601,554	02/11/1997	Howland et al.	606	61	
AB	5,727,899	03/17/1998	Dobrovolny	403	389	
AC	6,616,664	09/09/2003	Walulik et al.	606	57	
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes No
AL						
AM						
AN						

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AO	
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EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.